GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2381
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2002
CBI CASE AGAINST JOHNSON JOHNSON COMPANY
BALIRAM;DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureauof Investigation filed a case against the renowned pharmaceutical company Johnson & Johnson in January 2002 for overcharging of the medicines thereby duping the common consumers and the Government to the tune of Rs.50 crores ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to recover the aforesaid amount ;

(c) whether the Government propose to cancel the license of the company and take concrete action against this company;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be taken ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) & (b) : No such case has been registered by CBI during January,2002.However, it is a fact that CBI has registered a Regular Case RC-07/2001-SIU.XI on 24.12.2001 under Section 120-B IPC read with Section 420, IPC read with Section 7 & 10 of Essenti Commodities Act and substantive offences thereunder against M/s N.R. Jet Enterprises Limited, Mahim, Mumbai through its Directors, M/s Johnson & Johnson Limited, Mumbai through its Directors & others on the allegation of causing loss to common consumer and Government to the tune of almost Rs.50 crores for selling drugs on higher rates.

(c) to (e) : The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA)has already issued an overcharging notice on M/s N.R. Jet Enterprises Ltd. demanding about Rs.23 crores in respect of one product named Raricap. The State industries department and the Drugs Controller have also been asked to take appropriate action.